

Message Text

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ACTION MMO-04

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R 142045Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 705

UNCLAS LA PAZ 3768

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, BL

SUBJECT: COMBINATION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SECTIONS
AND REDUCTION OF STATE POSITIONS

REF: LA PAZ 3466

1. SINCE FEBRUARY 27 THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SECTIONS OF THIS EMBASSY HAVE BEEN COMBINED UNDER A SINGLE SECTION CHIEF FOR AN EXPERIMENTAL PERIOD TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE COMBINATION IS SENSIBLE AND WHETHER THE ELIMINATION OF ONE SECTION CHIEF POSITION IS FEASIBLE. A CAREFUL INVESTIGATION OF THE TEMPORARY AMALGAMATION CAUSES ME TO CONCLUDE THAT THE COMBINATION IS SUEFUL AND THAT THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT ADVANTAGES FROM PLACING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OFFICERS IN A COMBINED SECTION. I HAVE, THEREFORE, DECIDED TO MAKE THE COMBINATION PERMANENT AND ACCORDINGLY OFFER UP POSITION NO. 10-5550-061, POLITICAL OFFICER, SECTION CHIEF, WITH A POSITION LEVEL OF FSO-3. THE POSITION NO. 20-5010-040 SHOULD BE RENAMED COUNSELOR FOR POLITICAL-ECONOMIC COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS, POSITION LEVEL FSO-3.

2. I HAVE ALSO VERY CAREFULLY ANALYZED THE NEEDS OF THIS POST FOR AMERICAN SECRETARIES AND HAVE CONCLUDED THAT POSITION NO. 10-9280-117, SECRETARY, FS-MC, CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY RUTH BOLDY, CAN BE ELIMINATED UPON THE DEPARTURE OF ROSALIE NATROP IN NOVEMBER. MISS NATROP OCCUPIES POSITION NO. 10-9280-099, SECRETARY, FSS-7, WHICH I RECOMMEND MISS BOLDY OCCUPY UNTIL HER DEPARTURE IN MAY 1977. A REPLACEMENT IN MAY 1977 SHOULD OF
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COURSE BE MADE AT THE PROPER GRADE LEVEL FOR THE SECRETARIAL

POSITION RETAINED.

3. OF INTEREST IS THE DECISION JOINTLY REACHED BY THE PAO, USIA WASHINGTON AND ME THAT USIS POSITION BOV-0028, SECRETARY, FSS-7, SHOULD BE CHANGED TO BE A PART-TIME POSITION FILLED BY A LOCALLY HIRED AMERICAN WIFE.

4. POSITION NO. 10-5550-118, POLITICAL OFFICER, FSO-7, CAN BE ELIMINATED UPON THE DEPARTURE OF PRESENT INCUMBENT, JERFFREY PETERSON, WHO WILL NOT BE REPLACED.

5. UNLESS POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES HERE SHOULD CHANGE MARKEDLY, POSITION NO. 56-2510, SECURITY OFFICER, RU-4, CAN BE CLOSED OUT UPON THE SCHEDULED DEPARTURE OF THE PRESENT INCUMBENT, VALERIO CARO, IN MAY 1977.

6. IN THE TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE I ASKED FOR A NEW LOCAL EMPLOYEE SECRETARIAL POSITION FOR THE POLITICAL-ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL SECTION. PERHAPS THE STEPS OUTLINED ABOVE TO STREAMLINE THE PERSONNEL ROSTER HERE CAN BE USED AS ARGUMENTS TO SUPPORT THE REQUEST FOR THIS NEW POSITION.
STEDMAN

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